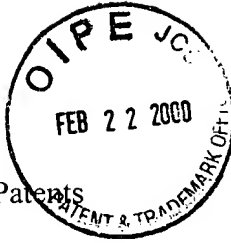


**HOWREY & SIMON**

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February 22, 2000



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Attn: *Box Sequence*

8/a  
M.G.J.  
2/29/00

Re: Utility Application Serial No. 09/227,881  
Filed: January 11, 1999  
Inventors: Thai D. NGUYEN *et al.*  
For: Nucleic Acids, Kits and Methods for the Diagnosis, Prognosis  
and Treatment of Glaucoma and Related Disorders  
Atty. Ref.: 07425.0057.US00

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Preliminary Amendment;
2. Statement Regarding Sequence Submission;
3. Copy of Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures;
4. Sequence Listing;
5. Diskette containing computer readable form of Sequence Listing; and
6. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier.

FEB 28 2000

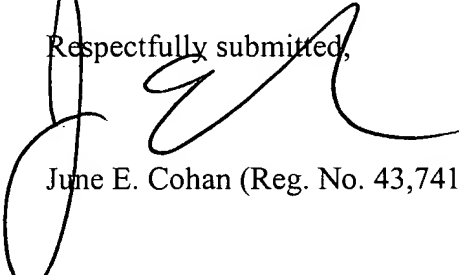
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FEB 24 2000

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby requested, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,741)

Enclosures

FEB 28 2000  
TECH CENTER 1600